DOCKET NO: 208608US0PCT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

: EXAMINER: METZMAIER THOMAS DANIEL, ET AL.

SERIAL NO: 09/831,915

: GROUP ART UNIT: 1796 FILED: MAY 25, 2001

FOR: HYDROGELS CAPABLE OF ABSORBING AQUEOUS FLUIDS

PETITION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.103(c)

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS **ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450**

SIR:

Applicants hereby request a suspension of action for a time period of three (3) months. The suspension of action is necessary because Applicants are in the process of preparing additional data, to provide the evidence mentioned by the Board of Appeals and Interferences.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request suspension of action for a period of three (3) months.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,

MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Customer Number

22850

PHONE NO.: (703) 413-3000 FAX NO.: (703) 413-2220

Kirsten A. Grüneberg, Ph. D. Registration No.: 47,297